



Eve Ganten's
granddaughter

Isleta Gayle Braun

March 20, 1916 to June 25, 2006.

ISLETA GAYLE BRAUN was born March 20, 1916 in Gayle, Louisiana near Shreveport. She was the oldest child of Alma and Arthur Gayle, followed by her brothers John and Robert. Isleta was known to her family and friends by her nickname, Mikie.

Isleta was educated in New Orleans and at the University of Oklahoma where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority. As a young woman, Isleta won a talent competition and was sent to California to audition with the Hollywood studios. There she began a singing career that would thread through her life for years to come, singing opera in Cincinnati, Rochester, NY and New Orleans, and participating in little theatre and summer stock in Cincinnati, New Port, RI, New Orleans, and finally on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Her talents and interests were boundless.

In Cincinnati, Isleta also wrote a newspaper column called "Tours in Taste", and hosted a daily radio talk show where she interviewed local celebrities, doing all of her own concept, writing, directing, editing, and recruiting. All the while, she continued her singing and little theatre interests. She was a one woman whirlwind.

Isleta was responsible for the publicity, promotion and fund raising for the first Children's International Summer Village, founded by her lifelong friend, Dr. Doris T. Allen and husband, Erastus Allen, in Cincinnati in 1951. From this humble beginning, CISV has become a worldwide movement promoting peace and tolerance among diverse cultures through children and the arts.

Among her many and enduring passions, Mikie was an ambassador for children's art from around the world, collecting, exhibiting and sponsoring fund raising events for

individuals, schools and foundations across the Gulf Coast and New Orleans.

Isleta married William Louis Braun in Cincinnati in September 1952. They settled on the Mississippi Gulf Coast where they lived for over 50 years. Bill and Isleta have two daughters, Linda Braun Gipson and Alma Pinet Braun McBride both of Houston and five grandchildren, Lauren Gipson Dykes of Baton Rouge, Wesley William Gipson of Coral Gables, Georgia Braun McBride of New Orleans, Annie Gayle McBride and James William McBride of Houston. In addition to being survived by her husband, children, and grandchildren, she is also survived by her brother Robert Gayle of Covington, Louisiana.

A Memorial Service will be held Thursday, June 29th at 4:30 pm at West University United Methodist Church, 3611 University Blvd., Houston, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial remembrances be sent to Trinity Episcopal Church, Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund, 125 Church/St. Louis Street, P.O. Box 459, Pass Christian, Mississippi 39571.